

## GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

*April 4, 2016*

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge>



Dear Families,

Tomorrow is a Professional Development Day in Shrewsbury. At the Elementary level, teachers across the district will gather to learn more about the design process and how using it empowers students as learners. Developing students' confidence, work habits and other "habits of mind" that support a growth mindset is an important aspect of schooling. Here at Coolidge we've focused on two specific areas: social skills and academic work habits.

Students have the opportunity to learn and apply social skills during whole class routines like Morning Meeting. Children also experience small group support throughout this school year, either with their teacher or with our School Psychologist, Ms. Julia Holdren. What do students learn? A lot: 'whole body listening', emotional regulation and identifying ways to show 'flexible thinking' help children to work well with others. Starting this week, these topics are going to be taught outside the classroom as well. Ms. Holdren is planning to help children apply their skills in specials and on the playground. In collaboration with the classroom teachers, Ms. Holdren will be selecting specific topics to highlight. For example, first graders will be practicing sharing space, taking turns and communicating in P.E. class.

Learning to working with others is one area of focus. Learning how to learn is another. You can help your child in both areas by looking carefully at your child's strengths and goals.

Trimester 2 report cards come home today. **Please review the "Habits of Mind" section carefully.** Look for the effort grade, and ask your child to tell you about what they think they've been working hard to learn lately. Finally, please look to see how consistent your child is in demonstrating effort at school. Simply put, our teachers would like to work with you so that more Coolidge students work hard in school more consistently. At every grading period teachers emphasize the importance of "doing your best". As a school, we've also made a concerted effort to highlight and celebrate effort. And yet, every year we must win over students that say, "No thank you," to challenge. Each year we struggle with students that only work hard if an adult is watching. Too many children at Coolidge School recognize the need to learn their sums- and fail to practice fact fluency. As a faculty we are committed to motivating ALL our students to complete rigorous work in Trimester 3. Please help!

At school this Friday we'll celebrate students that have maintained their level of effort since Trimester 1, and we'll applaud students that are new to the list. At home, please look for your child's effort marks, and have a celebration at home, too. If your child is not on the list yet, please:

- read the teacher comments for clues about how your child can improve,
- set an effort goal with your child for trimester 3, and
- reach out to your child's teacher to learn more about how you can support your child.

Elementary school is a good place to learn and to grow. Please join the conversation about how to engage your child in demonstrating a positive mindset at school.

Sincerely,

Amy

**P.S. Please remember tomorrow is an Early Release Day. Students will not get breakfast or lunch at school. Dismissal begins at 12:15.**

FYI

1. **Thanks, Cub Scouts!** The Cub scouts from Pack 146 helped clean up trash along the Coolidge School grounds during town clean up day.

- ## **2. Shrewsbury Road Scholars 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run**

Who is up for the challenge of participating in the Shrewsbury Road Scholars 5k/Fun Run?? Both the mile race and the 5K race start at 12pm on Sunday, April 10th at Oak Middle School. The registration form is on the SPS website. For more information, visit: [www.shrewsburyroadscholars.org](http://www.shrewsburyroadscholars.org) Hope to see you there!

## Important Upcoming Dates:

April 4 Report cards are issued.

**April 5 Early Release - Half Day of School**

April 8	Coolidge Spring Fling Fundraiser <b>SOLD OUT!</b>
April 26, 27, 28	PARCC testing Grade, 3 English Language Arts
April 29	School Store
May 2, 4, 5	PARCC testing Grade 4, English Language Arts
May 9-12	PARCC testing Grade 3, Math
May 16-19	PARCC testing Grade 4, Math

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## **CHECK OUT THE COOLIDGE SCHOOL VIDEOS**

Please go to the Coolidge Facebook page and check out the latest 7 videos from the April 1<sup>st</sup> All School Meeting that are posted. See your terrific kids doing wonderful things!

**<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool/>**

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## **COOLIDGE CLOTHESLINE**

COOLIDGE PARENTS:

Do any of these articles of clothing look familiar? This is our Coolidge Lost & Found Clothesline. If you recognize any of your child's clothing or boots, please come in ASAP and bring them home. They are hanging on the clothesline across from the cafeteria.

Any articles not picked up by the end of Spring vacation will be donated

See photos of all clothing article on our Facebook page:

**<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool/>**



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## OAK'S GOT TALENT!

**Fourth Annual "Oak's Got Talent!" Variety Show** Featuring some of the area's best young talent: singers, dancers, instrumentalists, comedians and magicians!! Saturday, April 9th from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. in the Oak Middle School Auditorium, 45 Oak Street, Shrewsbury. The 50/50 Raffle returns, too! Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5 per person / \$10 per family. Sponsored by the SMS PTO.

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## CONTINUING THE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT ***MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED***

You are invited to continue the discussions we started after the movie, *Most Likely to Succeed*. At 6:00pm, on April 5th, at Shrewsbury High School, Will Richardson, noted author, international speaker and strong advocate for change in America's classroom will explore the important and complex changes and shifts that come with

24/7 access to the Web. We hope you will join us as we continue to look at what our schools need to do to ensure that we are best preparing our students for a changing world.

*"What constitutes an education now that we can learn deeply in informal spaces outside the school walls? What are the new roles of teachers when content knowledge is everywhere? And how do we best prepare our students for the modern learning worlds in which they will live and work?" --Will Richardson <http://willrichardson.com/>*

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## **Community Awareness Forum on Opioid Crisis Sponsored by the Shrewsbury Coalition for Addiction Prevention & Education (SCAPE)**

Join SCAPE for a forum on the opioid crisis on **Monday, April 11, 2016 at Shrewsbury High School, 64 Holden Street**. This event is free and open to the public. Visit the resource table from 7-7:30 and then join the panel members for a discussion from 7:30-9:00PM. See the flyer [HERE](#) for details regarding the event, panel members and co-sponsors of this discussion.

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### **PTO NEWSFLASH**

**Email:** [ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us)

**Blog:** <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and notices. Come check it out!

**Facebook Group:** "Calvin Coolidge PTO"

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community or ask a question.

**Direct Donation:** <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

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1. PTO Meeting- April 6, 2016
2. Spring Fling
3. Congratulations March Boxtop Winner
4. Reading Incentive Program
5. Labels for Education
6. School Store- April 8th

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**1. PTO Meeting.** Everyone is encouraged to join us for our next meeting on **Wednesday, April 6th at 7pm** in the Media Center. Mrs. Clouter will be sharing **information about the school's crisis response protocol**. We will **vote on next year's PTO board positions**, hear updates on our fundraisers and events, the enrichment program plans, and more. Please contact President Rachel Reeve ([ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us](mailto:ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us)) with anything you want to discuss so it can be added to the agenda.

**2. All seats for BOTH seatings of the Spring Fling are SOLD OUT.** This should be a fantastic event filled with ice cream sundaes, BINGO, and tons of great baskets. Thanks to the Coolidge families , staff, and local businesses for their donations. When you are out and about please stop in and thank these local businesses for supporting Coolidge...

Price Chopper for donating gift card  
SELCO for donating a huge basket of goodies  
Shrewsbury Parks & Rec Dept for donating \$25 gift certificates  
Papa's Hardware for helping fill our garden baskets  
Elements Massage for donating a 1 hour massage  
Marathon Sports for donating a basket of goodies  
Gaston Art and Artmakerz for donating \$25 gift cards  
Laser Craze for donating passes  
Dick's for donating gift card.

Shaws for donating a gift card

**3.** Congratulations to the March **BOXTOPS** winner, Aleena Cronin! Thank you for saving those Boxtops for our school. We are collecting right up to the last day of school, so keep sending them in!

**4. Reading Incentive Program** - As we enter April, the students Reading Incentive sheets are coming in at a great rate. I'm so happy to have so many great readers. Remember to let your student know that they need to get in at least 10 to be receiving their medal at the ceremony in June. There is still plenty of time, so keep on reading. Students in grades 2-4 are receiving and "spending" their reading tickets at the school store, so remember for each sheet passed in, they receive one ticket to spend. Grades

K-1 are able to choose from the prize buckets in their classrooms each time they pass in their sheets.

**Congratulations to our March Reading Incentive winner - Ana Maloy.** Ana is a second grader in Miss Cloyes' class. She received a \$5 gift card to Barnes & Noble and a cute 3-D picture card. Keep on reading Ana. Congratulations again!

Remember to check out our Solar System display in the cabinet in the front lobby. There you will find some really interesting items and maybe see something you've never seen before. A fun fact is about the sun. Did you know that the star in the center of the solar system is the sun? The surface of the sun is about 10,000 degrees F. In the center, it may be 27,000,000 degrees F. The sun is so big, it can fit one million earths inside of it. The sun has burned for 4.5 billion years. In its current state, it will probably burn for 5 billion years more. Keep on reading - you never know what you will learn!

**5.Labels for Education - Our Labels for Education program is ending as of this school year.** I encourage you to please send in any and all Campbells and Pepperidge Farm labels that you have to better our chances of being able to receive some really great items for our school. This has been a great program, but due to not many people taking advantage of it, they have decided to end it. I am able to send out a final order until July, so its never too late to send them in. Thank you all for the many donations.

**6.School Store - We are having our School Store again on Friday, April 8th.** I encourage you to remind your fourth grader if they are scheduled to be working that day. Many of the students are forgetting, which is understandable. There is a list in each of the fourth grade classrooms if they need to check it. Thank you.

*To include news about your committee, fundraiser or PTO event in future newsflashes, please e-mail your submissions to Kristie Biando at [kbiando74@gmail.com](mailto:kbiando74@gmail.com)*